

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the original Abstract with the following:

--A secure method for implementing virus protection on a computer system including an Extensible Firmware Interface (EFI), a hard disk, a nonvolatile memory and a BIOS is disclosed. A command is added to the command shell of the EFI which results in the automatic copying of the boot sector of the hard disk to the nonvolatile memory when the computer system is initialized. The boot sector of the hard disk is automatically read back from the nonvolatile memory on each boot, which bypasses the boot sector access of the hard disk during system initialization; thereby, protecting the computer system from and eliminating potential viruses. The command shell of the EFI may also be modified to include a command to include a security signature input field. The required signature is provided by the user prior to updating the stored boot sector.--